Ba. 6. 32.

8

A TRVE and plaine declaration of the horrible Treasons, practised by William Parry the Traitor, against the Queenes Maiestie. The maner of his Arraignment, Conuiction and execution, together with the copies of sundry letters of his and others, tending to diuers purposes, for the proofes of his Treasons.

Syn. 7. 58. 23

Also an addition not impertinent thereunto, containing a short collection of his birth, education and course of life.

Moreouer, a fewe obseruations gathered of his owne wordes and wrytings, for the farther manifestation of his most disloyal, detestable and desperate purpose.

At London by C. B.

Cum priuilegio.

7454:80

A true and plaine declaration of the horrible Treasons practised by *William Parry* against the Queenes Maiestie, & of his conuiction and execution for the same. The second of March 1584. according to the account of England.

THis *William Parry*, being a man of very meane and base parentage, but of a most proude and insolent spirite, bearing himselfe alwaies farre aboue the measure of his fortune, after hee had long led a wastefull and dissolute life, and had committed a great outrage against one *Hugh Hare*, a gentleman of the Inner Temple, with an intent to haue murthered him in his owne Chamber, for the which he was most iustly conuicted, seeing himselfe generally condemned with all good men for the same and other his misdemeanours, hee left his naturall Country, & gaue himselfe to trauaile into forraine partes beyonde the seas. In the course of this his trauaile, he forsooke his allegiance and ductifull obedience to her Maiestie, and was reconciled, and subiected himselfe to the Pope. After which, vpon conference with certain *Iesuites* and others of like qualitie, hee first conceiued his most detestable Treason to kill the Queene (whose life God long preserue:) whiche hee bounde himselfe by promise, letters, and vowes, to perfourme and execute, and so with this intent hee retourned into Englande in Ianuarie 1583, and sithens that did practise at sundrie times to haue executed his most deuilish purpose and determina-

termination: yet couering the same so much as in him lay with a vaile & pretence of great loyaltie to her Maiestie.

Immediately vpon his retourne into Englande, hee sought to haue secret accesse to her Maiestie, pretending to haue some matter of great importance to reueale vnto her: which obtained, & the same so priuately in her Highnes pallace at Whitehal, as her Maiestie had but one only Counseller w̄ her at the time of his accesse, in a remote place, who was so farre distant, as he could not heare his speach. And there thē he discouered vnto her Maiestie (but shadowed with all craftie & traiterous skill he had) some part of the conference & proceeding as well with the saide *Iesuites*, and other ministers of the Popes, as especially with one *Thomas Morgan* a fugitiue, residing at *Paris*, who aboue all others did perswade him to proceede in that most deuilish attempt, (as is set downe in his voluntarie confession following,) bearing her Maiestie notwithstanding in hand, that his onely intent of proceeding so farre with the saide *Iesuites*, and the Popes ministers, tended to no other ende, but to discouer the daungerous practises deuised and attempted against her Maiestie by her disloyall subiects and other malicious persons in forraine parts: albeit it hath since appeared most manifestly, as well by his said Confession, as by his dealing with one *Edmond Neuil* Esquire, that his onely intent of discouering the same in sort as hee craftily and traiterously did, tended to no other end, but to make the way the easier to accomplish his most deuilish and wicked purpose.

And although any other Prince but her Maiestie (who is lothe to put on a harde censure of those that protest to be loyal, as *Parry* did,) would rather haue proceeded to the punishment of a subiect that had waded so farre, as by othe and vowe to promise the taking away of her life (as hee to her Maiesties selfe did confesse:) yet such was her goodnes, as in steade of punishing, she did deale so graciously with him, as she suffered him not onely to haue accesse

ceſſe vnto her preſence: but alſo many times to haue priuate conference with her, and did offer vnto him vpon opinion once conceiued of his fidelitie towardes her, (as though his wicked pretence had bene as he protested, for her ſeruice) a moſt liberall penſion.

Beſides, to the ende that he might not growe hatefull to the good and well affected ſubiectes of the Realme, (from whome he could in no ſorte haue eſcaped with ſafetie of his life, if his deuiliſh purpoſe had bene reuealed) her Maieſtie did conceale the ſame, without communicating it to any creature, vntill ſuch time as he him ſelfe had opened the ſame vnto certaine of her counſell, and that it was alſo diſcouered, that he ſought to drawe the ſaide *Neuill* to haue bene a partie in his deuiliſh and moſt wicked purpoſe.

A verie rare example, and ſuch as doeth more ſet forth the ſingular goodneſſe and bountie of her Maieſties princely nature, then commend (if it be lawfull for a ſubiecte to cenſure his Soueraigne) her prouidence ſuch as ought to be in a Prince and perſon of her Maieſties wiſdome and qualitie. And as the goodneſſe of her Maieſties nature, did hereby moſt manifeſtly ſhew it ſelfe to be rare in ſo extraordinarie a caſe, and in a matter of ſo great perill vnto her owne royall perſon: ſo did the malice of *Parry* moſt euidently appeare to be in the higheſt and extremeſt degree, who notwithſtanding the ſaid extraordinarie grace and fauour extended towardes him, did not onely perſwade the ſaide *Neuill* to be an aſſociate in the ſaid wicked enterpriſe: but did alſo very vehemently (as *Neuill* confeſſeth) importune him therein as an action lawfull, honourable, and meritorious, omitting nothing that might prouoke him to aſſent thereunto.

But ſuch was the ſingular goodneſſe of Almightie God, (who euen from her Maieſties cradle by many euident arguments hath ſhewed him ſelfe her onely and eſpeciall protectour) that he ſo wrought in *Neuils* heart, as

he was mooued to reueale the ſame vnto her Maieſtie, and for that purpoſe made choyſe of a faithfull Gentleman and of good qualitie in the Court, vnto whome vpon Munday the eight of Februarie laſt, he diſcouered at large all that had paſſed betweene *Parry* and him, who immediately made it knowen to her Maieſtie: whereupon her Highneſſe pleaſure was, that *Newill* ſhould be examined by the Earle of *Leyceſter*, and *Sir Chriſtopher Hatton*: who in the euening of the ſame day did examine him, and he affirmed conſtantly all which he had before declared to the ſaid Gentleman.

In the meane time, her Maieſtie continued her ſingular and moſt Princely magnanimitie, neither diſmayd with the rarenes of the accident, nor appauled with the horror of ſo villanous an enterpriſe, tending euen to the taking away of her moſt gratious life, (a matter eſpecially obſerued by the Counſeller that was preſent at ſuch time as *Parry* after his returne did firſt diſcouer vnto her Maieſtie his wicked purpoſe, who found no other alteration in her countenance, then if he had imparted vnto her ſome matter of contentment,) which ſheweth manifeſtly how ſhe repoſeth her confidence wholly in the defence of the Almightie. And ſo her Maieſtie, folowing the wonted courſe of her ſingular clemencie, gaue order that *Parry* the ſame Monday in the euening (though not ſo knowen to him) ſhould bee ſent to Maſter Secretaries houſe in London, he being then there, who according vnto ſuch direction as he receiued from her Maieſtie, did let him vnderſtand, that her highnes (in reſpect of the good will ſhee knew he bare vnto the ſayd *Parry*, and of the truſt that *Parry* did outwardly profeſſe to repoſe in Maſter Secretarie,) had made eſpeciall choyſe of him to deale with him in a matter that concerned her highly, and that ſhe doubted not, but that he would diſcharge his duetie towardes her, according vnto that extraordinarie deuotion that hee profeſſed to beare vnto her.

And

And thereupon told him ꝑ her Maiestie had ben aduertised that there was somewhat intended presently against her owne person, wherewith she thought he could not but bee made acquainted, considering the great trust that some of her worst affected subiects reposed in him: And that her pleasure therefore was, that hee shoulde declare vnto him his knowledge therein: and whether the saide *Parry* himselfe had let fall any speach vnto any person (though with an intent only to haue discouered his disposition) that might drawe him in suspition, as though hee himselfe had any such wicked intent. But *Parry* with great and vehement protestations denied it vtterly, wherupon Master Secretarie, the rather to induce him to deale more plainely in a matter so important, declared vnto him, that there was a gentlemã of qualitie euery way as good or better then himselfe, and rather his friend then enemie, that would auouch it to his face: yet *Parry* persisted stubburnly in his former denial & iustification of his owne innocẽcie, & would not in any respect yeeld that he was partie or priuie to any such motiõ enterprise or intent. And being lodged ꝑ night at Master Secretaries house, the next morning he desired earnestly to haue some further speache with Master Secretarie: which graunted, *Parry* declared to him that he had called to remembrance that hee had once some speach with one *Nevil* a kinsman of his (so he called him) touching a point of doctrine conteined in ꝑ answere made to the booke, entituled, The Execution of Iustice in England, by which booke it was resolued, that it was lawfull to take away the life of a prince, in furtherance of the Catholique religion: but he protested that they neuer had any speach at all of any attempt intended against her Maiesties person. Which denial of his (at two sundrie times after so much light giuen him) doeth set forth most apparantly both the iustice and prouidence of God: His Iustice, for that (though hee was one of a sharpe conceipt) he had no power to take holde of this ouerture, thereby to

haue

haue auoyded the danger that *Nevils* accusation might bring him into by confessing the same, as a thing proposided only to feele *Nevils* minde, whome before hee had reported vnto Master Secretarie he found a person discontented, and therefore his confession might to very great purpose haue serued to haue cleared him selfe touching the intent: his providence, for that of his great mercie he would not suffer so dangerous and wicked a member to escape and to liue to her Maiesties perill.

The same day at night, *Parry* was brought to the Earle of *Leycesters* house, and there extraordinarie examined before the sayd Earle of *Leycester*, Master Vicechamberlaine, & Master Secretarie: he persisted still in his denial of all that hee was charged with. Whereupon, *Nevil* being brought before him face to face, iustified his accusation against him. He notwithstanding would not yet yeelde to confesse it, but very proudly and insolently opposed his credit against the credit of *Nevil*, affirming that his No was as good as *Nevills* Yea, and as by way of recrimination obiected the crime to *Nevil* himselfe. On the other side, *Nevil* did with great constancie affirme all that hee had before sayde, & did set downe many probable circumstances of the times, places, and maners of their sundrie conferences, and of such other accidents as had happened betweene them in the course of that action: whereupon *Parry* was then committed to the Tower, and *Nevil* commanded by their honours, to set downe in writing vnder his hand, al that which before he had deliuered by wordes: which he did with his owne hand, as followeth.

Edmund

Edmund Neuil his declaration the x. of Februarie, 1584. ſubſcribed with his owne hand.

WIlliam Parry the laſt ſummer, ſoone after his repulſe in his ſuite for ỳ Maſterſhip of S. Katherines, repaired to my lodging in ỳ white Fryers, where he ſhewed him ſelfe a perſon greatly diſcontented, and vehemently inueighed againſt her Maieſtie, and willed me to aſſure my ſelfe, that during this time and ſtate, I ſhoulde neuer receiue contentment. But ſith, ſaid he, I knowe you to be honourably deſcended, and a man of reſolution, if you will giue me aſſurance, either to ioyne with me, or not to diſcouer me, I will deliuer vnto you the onely meanes to doe your ſelfe good. Which when I had promiſed him, he appointed me to come the next day to his houſe in Feuter Lane: and repairing thither accordingly, I founde him in his bed, whereupon he commaunded his men foorth, and began with me in this order. My loyde, ſaide he, (for ſo he called me) I proteſt before God, that three reaſons principally doe induce me to enter into this action which I intende to diſcouer vnto you: The replanting of religion, The preferring of the Scottiſh Title, and The aduauncement of Juſtice, wonderfully corrupted in this Cõmon welth. And thereupon entred into ſome diſcourſes, what places were fit to be takẽ to giue entrãce to ſuch forrein forces as ſhould be beſt liked of for the furtherance of ſuch enterpriſes as were to be vndertaken. And with theſe diſcourſes, he paſſed the time vntill he went to dinner: after which, the companie being retired, he entred into his former diſcourſes. And if I be not deceiued, (ſaid he) by taking of *Quinborough Caſtell*, we ſhall hinder the paſſage of the Queenes ſhips foorth of the Riuer. Whereunto when he ſawe me vſe no contradiction, he ſhooke me by the hande, Tuſh, ſaide he, this is nothing: If men were reſolute, there is an en-

terprise of much more moment, and much easier to performe: An Acte honourable, and meritorious to God & the world. Which seeing me desirous to knowe, he was not ashamed to vtter in plaine termes, to consist in killing of her Maiestie: wherein, saith he, if you will goe with me, I will loose my life, or deliuer my Countrey from her badde and tyrannous gouernment. At which speaches finding me discontented, he asked me if I had read *Doctor Allens* booke, out of which he alledged an authoritie for it. I answered, No, and that I did not beleeue that authoritie. Well said he, what will you say, if I shew further authoritie then this, euen from *Rome* it selfe, a plaine dispensation for the killing of her, wherein you shall finde it (as I said before) meritorious. Good cousin, said I, when you shall shewe it me, I shal thinke it very strange, when I shall see one to holde that for meritorious, which another holdeth for damnable. Well, saide *Parry*, doe me but the fauour to thinke vpon it till to morowe: and if one man be in the towne, I will not faile to shewe you the thing it selfe: and if he be not, he will be within these v. or sixe dayes, at which time if it please you to meete me at Chanon Rowe, we may there receiue the Sacrament to bee true eche to other, and then I will discouer vnto you both the partie, and the thing it selfe. Whereupon I praied *Parry* to thinke better vpon it, as a matter of great charge both of soule and body. I would to God, sayde *Parry*, you were as perfectly perswaded in it as I am, for then vndoubtedly you should doe God great seruice.

Not long after viii. or x. dayes, (as I remember) *Parrie* comming to visit me at my lodging in *Herns* rents in Holborne, as he often vsed, we walked foorth into the fields, where he renewed againe his determination to kil her Maiestie, whome he saide he thought most vnworthie to liue, and that he wondred I was so scrupulous therein. She hath sought, said he, your ruine and ouerthrow, why

why shoulde you not then seeke to reuenge it? I confesse, quoth I, that my case is harde, but yet am I not so desperate as to reuenge it vpon my selfe, which must needes be the euent of so vnhonest and vnpossible an enterprise. Unpossible, said *Parry*, I wonder at you, for in trueth there is not any thing more easie: you are no Courtier, and therefore knowe not her customes of walking with small traine, and often in the garden very priuately, at which time my selfe may easily haue accesse vnto her, and you also when you are knowen in Courte. Upõ the fact we must haue a barge ready to cary vs with speede downe the riuer, where we wil haue a shippe ready to transport vs if it be needefull: but vpon my head, wee shall neuer be followed so farre. I asked him, Howe will you escape foorth of the garden? for you shall not be permitted to carie any men with you, and the gates will then be locked, neither can you carie a Dagge without suspition. As for a Dagge, said *Parry*, I care not: my Dagger is enough. And as for my escaping, those that shalbe with her, will be so busie about her, as I shall finde opportunitie enough to escape, if you be there ready with the Barge to receiue me. But if this seeme daungerous in respect of your reason before shewed, let it then rest till her comming to S. James, and let vs furnish our selues in the meane time with men and horse fitte for the purpose: we may eache of vs keepe eight or ten men without suspition. And for my part, saide he, I shal finde good fellowes that will followe me without suspecting mine intent. It is much, said hee, that so many resolute men may doe vpon the sudaine, being well appoynted with eache his Case of Dagges: if they were an hundreth wayting vpon her, they were not able to saue her, you comming of the one side, and I on the other, and discharging our Dagges vpon her, it were vnhappie if we shoulde both misse her. But if our Dagges faile, I shall bestirre mee well with a sworde ere shee escape me. Whereunto I

saide, Good Doctour giue ouer this odious enterprise, and trouble me no more with the hearing of that, which in heart I lothe so much. I woulde to God the enterprise were honest, that I might make knowen vnto thee whether I want resolution. And not long after, her Maiestie came to S. James, after which, one morning (the day certaine I remember not,) *Parry* reuiued againe his former discourse of killing her Maiestie, with great earnestnesse and importunity perswading me to ioyne therein: saying he thought me the onely man of Englande like to performe it, in respect of my valure, as he termed it.

Whereupon, I made semblance as if I had bene more willing to heare him then before, hoping by that meanes to cause him to deliuer his minde to some other ẏ might be witnes therof with me, wherein neuertheless I failed. After al this, on Saturday last, being the sixt of Februarie, betweene the houres of fiue and sixe in the after noone, *Parry* came to my chamber, and desired to talke with me a part, whereupon we drew our selues to a window. And where I had tolde *Parry* before, that a learned man whō I met by chaunce in the fieldes, vnto whome I propouned the question touching her Maiestie, had answered mee that it was an enterprise most villanous and damnable, willing me to discharge my selfe of it: *Parry* then desired to knowe that learned mans name, and what was become of him, saying after a scornefull manner, No doubt he was a very wise man, and you wiser in beleeuing him: and said further, I hope you tolde him not that I had any thing from Rome. Yes in trueth, saide I. Whereunto *Parry* saide, I would you had not named me, nor spoken of any thing I had from Rome. And thereupon hee earnestly perswaded mee eftsoones to depart beyonde the seas, promising to procure me safe passage into Wales, and from thence into Britaine, whereat we ended. But I then resolued not to do so, but to discharge my conscience, and lay open this his most traiterous and abhominable inten-

intention against her Maiestie: which I reuealed in sorte as is before set downe. *Edmund Neuil.*

AFter this cõfession of *Edmund Neuil, William Parry* the 11. day of Febr. last, being examined in ỳ Tower of London, by the Lorde *Hunsdon*, Lorde Gouernour of *Barwicke*, Sir *Christopher Hatton* knight, Vicechamberlaine to her Maiestie, & Sir *Francis Walsingham* Knight, principal Secretarie to her Maiestie, did voluntarie and without any constraint by woorde of mouth make confession of his saide Treason, and after, set it downe in writing all with his owne hande in his lodging in ỳ Tower, and sent it to the Court the 13. of the same, by the Lieutenant of the Tower. The partes whereof cõcerning his maner of doing the same, and the treasons wherewith he was iustly charged are here set downe, word for word as they are written and signed with his owne hand & name, the 11. of Febr uarie. 1584.

¶ *The voluntarie confession of* William Parry, in wryting all with his owne hand.

The voluntarie confession of William Parry, Doctor of the Lawes (now prisoner in the Tower) and accused of Treason by Edmund Neuil Esquier, promised by him (with al faith & humillitie) to the Queenes Maiestie, in discharge of his conscience and duetie towardes God and her. Before The Lorde Hunsdon, L. Gouernour of Barwicke, Sir Christopher Hatton knight, Vicechamberlain, Sir Francis Walsingham knight, principal secretarie, the 13. of Februarie. 1584.

Parry.

IN the yeere 1570. I was sworne her Maiesties seruant, from which time vntill the yere 1580. I serued, honoured, & loued her with as great readinesse, deuotion & assurance as any poore subiect in England. In the end of that yere, and vntill

vntill Midsomer 1582. I had some trouble for the hurting of a Gentleman of the Temple. In which action I was so disgraced and oppressed by two great men (to whome I haue of late beene beholden) that I neuer had contented thought since. There began my misfortune, & here followeth my wofull fall.

In Julie after, I laboured for licence to trauaile for three yeeres, which (vpon some consideration) was easily obtained. And so in August, I went ouer with doubtfull minde of returne, for that being suspected in religion, and not hauing receiued the Communion in 22. yeeres, I began to mistrust my aduauncement in England. In September I came to Paris, where I was reconciled to the Church, and aduised to liue without scandale, the rather for that it was mistrusted by the English Catholiques, that I had intelligence with the greatest counsellour of Englande. I staied not long there, but remooued to Lyons (a place of great traffique) where, because it was the ordinarie passage of our nation to and fro betweene Paris and Rome, I was also suspected.

To put all men out of doubt of me, and for some other cause, I went to Millaine, from whence as a place of some daunger (though I founde fauour there) after I had cleared my conscience, and iustified my selfe in religion before ỳ Inquisitour, I wẽt to Uenice. There I came acquainted with father *Benedicto Palmio*, a graue & a learned Iesuite. By conference with him of the hard state of the Catholiques in England, and by reading of the Booke *De persecutione Anglicana*, and other discourses of like argument, I conceiued a possible meane to relieue the afflicted state of our Catholiques, if the same might be wel warranted in religion and conscience by the Pope, or some learned diuines. I asked his opinion, hee made it cleare, commended my deuotion, comforted mee in it, and after a while made me knowen to the *Nuntio Campeggio*, there resident for his holinesse. By his meanes I

wrote

wrote to the Pope, presented the seruice, and sued for a Passport to goe to Rome, & to returne safely into France. Answere came from Cardinal *Como*, that I might come, and should be welcome. I misliked the warrant, sued for a better, which I was promised: but it came not before my departure to Lyons, where I promised to stay some time for it. And being in deede desirous to goe to Rome, and lothe to goe without countenaunce, I desired *Christofero de Salazar*, Secretarie to the king Catholique in Venice, who had some vnderstanding by conference, of my deuotion to the afflicted Catholiques at home and abroad, to commende me to the Duke *di Noua terra*, Gouernour of Millan, and to the Countie of *Oliuaris Embi*, then resident for the king his master in Rome: which he promised to do effectually for the one, and did for the other. And so I toke my iourney towards Lyons, whither came for me an ample Passeport (but somewhat too late,) that I might come and goe *in verbo pontificis per omnes iurisdictiones ecclesiasticas, absque impedimento*. I acquainted some good fathers there, of my necessitie to depart towardes Paris by promise, and praied their aduises vpon diuers poyntes, wherein I was well satisfied. And so assuring them that his holinesse shoulde heare from me shortly, it was vndertaken, that I shoulde bee excused for that time.

In October I came to Paris, where (vppon better opinion conceiued of mee amongst my Catholike countrie men) I founde my credit wel setled, and such as mistrusted me before, readie to trust and imbrace me. And being one day at the chamber of *Thomas Morgan* a Catholike Gentleman (greatly beloued and trusted on that side) amongest other gentlemen, talking (but in very good sort) of Englande, I was desired by *Morgan* to goe vp with him to another chamber, where he brake with me, and told mee that it was hoped and looked for, that I shoulde doe some seruice for God and his Church. I answered him I would

would do it, if it were to kill the greatest subiect in England: whome I named, and in trueth then hated. No no, said he, let him liue to his greater fal & ruine of his house:

2 It is the Queene I meane. I had him as I wished, and tolde him it were soone done, if it might be lawfully done, and warranted in the opinion of some learned diuines. And so the doubt once resolued (though as you haue heard I was before reasonably well satisfied) I vowed to vndertake the enterprise, for the restitution of England to the auncient obedience of the Sea Apostolique. Diuers diuines were named. Doctor *Alleine* I desired, *Persons* I refused. And by chance came Maister *Wattes* a learned Priest, with whō I conferred, and was ouerruled.

3 For he plainly pronounced (the case only altered in name) ẏ it was vtterly vnlawfull: with whō many English prelates did agree as I haue heard, if it be not altered since the booke made in answere of The executiō of the English Iustice was published, which I must cōfesse hath taken hard hold in me, and (I feare me) wil do in others, if it be not preuēted by more gracious handling of the quiet obedient Catholique subiects, whereof there is good and greater store in Englād, then this age wil extinguish. Wel, notwithstanding all these doubts, I was gone so farre by letters and conference in Italie, that I coulde not goe backe, but promised faithfully to performe the enterprise, if his holinesse vpon my offer and letters would allowe it, and grant me ful remission of my sinnes. 4 I wrote my letters the first of Ianuarie 1584. by their computation, tooke aduise vpon them in confession of Father *Aniball a Codreto* a learned Iesuite in Paris, was louingly embraced, commended, confessed, and communicated at the Iesuites at one altar with the Cardinalles of Vandosmi, and Narbone, whereof I prayed certificate, and enclosed the same in my letter to his holinesse, to leade him the rather to absolue me, which I required by my letters, in consideration of so great an enterprise vndertaken without promise

promiſe or reward. 5 I went with *Morgan* to the Nuntio *Ragazzoni*, to whome I read the letter and certificate encloſed, ſealed it, and left it with him to ſend to Rome: hee promiſed great care of it, and to procure anſwere: And ſo louingly imbraced me, wiſhed mee good ſpeede, and promiſed that I ſhould be remembred at ỹ altar. 6 After this I deſired Morgan, that ſome ſpecial man might be made priuie to this matter, leſt hee dying, and I miſcarying in the execution, and my entent neuer truely diſcouered, it might ſticke for an euerlaſting ſpot in my race. Diuers were named, but none agreed vpon for feare of bewraying. 7 This being done, *Morgan* aſſured me, ỹ ſhortly after my departure, the *L. Fernehurſt* (then in Paris) ſhould goe into Scotland, and bee readie vpon the firſt newes of the Queenes fal, to enter into England with 20. or 30000. men to defend the Queene of Scotland, (whome, and the king her ſonne, I doe in my conſcience acquite of any priuitie, liking, or conſent to this, or any other bad action, for any thing that euer I did knowe.) I ſhortly departed for Englād, & arriued at Rie in Januarie 1583. from whence I wrote to the Court, aduertiſed ſome, that I had a ſpecial ſeruice to diſcouer to ỹ Queens Maieſtie, 8 which I did more to prepare acceſſe & credit, then for any care I had of her perſon, though I were fully reſolued neuer to touch her (notwithſtanding any warrant) if by any deuiſe, perſuaſion, or policie ſhee might bee wrought to deale more graciouſly with the Catholiques then ſhe doeth, or by our maner of proceeding in parliamēt meaneth to doe, for any thing yet ſeene. I came to the Court, (thē at Whitehal,) prayed audience, had it at large, and very priuately diſcouered to her Maieſtie this conſpiracie, much to this effect, though couered with all the skil I had: ſhe tooke it doubtfully, I departed with feare. And amōgſt other things, I cannot forget her Maieſties gracious ſpeech then vttered touching the Catholiques, which of late, after a ſort I auowed in parliament: ſhe ſaid to mee

that neuer a Catholique ſhould be troubled for religion or ſupremacie, ſo lõg as they liued like good ſubiects. Wherby I miſtrusted that her Maieſtie is borne in hande, that none is troubled for the one or the other. It may be truely ſaid that it is better then it hath bene, though it be not yet as it ſhould be.

In March laſt, while I was at Greenewich (as I remember) ſuing for S. Katherines, came letters to mee from Cardinall *Como*, dated at Rome the laſt of Ianuarie before, whereby I found the enterpriſe commended, and allowed, and my ſelfe abſolued (in his holines name) of all my ſinnes, and willed to go forward in the name of God. That letter I ſhewed to ſome in Court, who imparted it to the Queene: what it wrought, or may worke in her Maieſtie, God knoweth: only this I know, ꝙ ẏ it cõfirmed my reſolution to kill her, and made it cleare in my conſcience, that it was lawfull and meritorious. And yet was I determined neuer to doe it, if either pollicie, practiſe, perſuaſion, or motion in parliament could preuayle. I feared to be tẽpted, & therefore alwayes when I came neere her, I left my dagger at home. 10 When I looked vpon her Maieſtie, and remembred her many excellencies, I was greatly troubled: And yet I ſawe no remedie, for my vowes were in heauen, my letters and promiſes in earth, and the caſe of ẏ Catholique recuſaunts, and others little bettered. Some times I ſaid to my ſelfe, Why ſhould I care for her: what hath ſhee done for me: haue I not ſpent 10000. markes ſince I knew her ſeruice, and neuer had penie by her: It may be ſaid, ſhe gaue me my life. But I ſay (as my caſe ſtoode) it had bene tyranny to take it: And I feare me it is litle leſſe yet. If it pleaſe her graciouſly to looke into my diſcontentments, I would to Jeſus Chriſt ſhe had it, for I am weary of it. And nowe to come to an end of this tragical diſcourſe: In July I left ẏ Court, vterly reiected, diſcontented, and as her Maieſtie might perceiue by my paſſionate letters, careleſſe of my ſelfe. I

came

came to Londō: *Doctor Alleins* booke was sent me out of *Fraunce:* 11 it redoubled my former conceites: Euery word in it was a warrant to a prepared mind: It taught that Kings may be excōmunicated, depriued, & violently handled: It proueth that al warres ciuill or forraine vndertaken for Religion, is honourable. Her Maiestie may do wel to reade it, & to be out of doubt (if things be not amended) that it is a warning, & a doctrine ful dangerous. This is the booke I shewed, in some places read, and lent to my cousin *Neuil* (the accuser) who came often to mine house, put his finger in my dish, his hande in my purse, and the night wherein he accused me, was wrapped in my gowne, sixe moneths at least after wee had entred into this conspiracie: In which space her Maiestie, and 10. Princes in seueral prouinces might haue bene killed. God blesse her Maiestie from him: for before Almightie God I ioy and am glad in my soule, that it was his hap to discouer me in time, though there were no danger neere.

And nowe to the maner of our meetings. He came to me in the beginning of August, and spake to me in this or like sorte. Cousin, let vs doe somewhat, sithens we can haue nothing. I offered to ioyne with him, and gladly heard him, hoping because I knewe him to be a Catholique, that he woulde hit vpon that I had in my head: but it fell not out so. He thought the deliuerie of the Queene of Scotlande easie, presuming vpon his credit and kinred in the North: I thought it daungerous to her, and impossible to men of our fortunes: He fell from that to the taking of Barwicke: I spake of *Quinborough* and the Nauie, rather to entertaine him with discourse, then that I cared for those motions, my head being full of a greater matter: 12 I told him that I had another maner of enterprise, more honourable and profitable to vs, and the Catholiques common wealth, then all these, if he woulde ioyne in it with me, as he presently vowed to do: He pressed to knowe it, I willed him to sleepe vpon the

motion: He did so, (and belike ouertaken) came to me the next morning to my lodging in London, offered to ioyne with me, and tooke his othe vpon a Bible, to conceale and constantly to pursue the enterprise for the aduancement of religion, which I also did, and meant to performe: the killing of the Queene was the matter.

The maner and place, to be on horsebacke, with eight or tenne horses, when shee shoulde ryde abroade about *S. Iames*, or some other like place. It was once thought fit in a Garden, & that the escape woulde be easiest by water into *Shepey*, or some other part: but wee resolued vpon the first.

This continued as agreed vpon many moneths, vntill he heard of the death of Westmerland, whose land and dignitie (wherof he assured himselfe) bread belike this conscience in him to discouer a Treason in Febuarie, contriued and agreed vpon in August. If it cost him not an ambitious head at last, let him neuer trust me. He brought a tall gentleman (whom he commended for an excellent Pistolier) to me to Thanon Rowe, to make one in the matcher but I refused to deale with him, being loth to laye my hea vpon so many hands.

Master *Neuil* hath (I thinke) forgotten, that hee did sweare to me at diuers times, that all thaduancement she coulde giue, shoulde serue but for her scourge, if euer time and occasion shoulde serue: And that though hee woulde not lay hand vpon her in a corner, his hart serued him to strike off her head in the fielde. Nowe leauing him to himselfe, this much (to make an ende) I must confesse of my self, I did meane to trie what might be done in Parliament, to doe my best to hinder all hard courses, to haue prayed hearing of the Queenes Maiestie, to moue her (if I coulde) to take compassion vpon her Catholique subiectes, and when all had fayled, to doe as I entended. If her Maiestie by this course would haue eased thē, though she had neuer preferred me, I had with all comfort and

patience

patience borne it: 13 but if she had preferred me without ease or care of them, thenterprise had held.

Parry.

GOd preserue the Queene, and encline her mercifull heart to forgiue me this desperate purpose, and to take my head (with all my heart) for her better satisfaction.

AFter which, for the better manifesting of his Treasons, on the xiiii. of Febuarie last, there was a letter written by him to her Maiestie, very voluntarily, al of his owne hand, without any motion made to him. The tenor whereof, for that which concerneth these his traiterous dealings, is as followeth. Febru. 14.

A Letter written by Parry to her Maiestie.

YOur Maiestie may see by my voluntarie confession, the dangerous fruites of a discontented minde: and howe constantly I pursued my first conceiued purpose in Venice, for the releefe of the afflicted Catholiques, continued it in Lions, and resolued in Paris, to put it in aduenture, for the restitution of England, to the auncient obedience of the Sea Apostolique. You may see withall howe it is commended, allowed, and warranted in conscience, diuinitie, and pollicie, by the Pope and some great Diuines: though it be true or likely, that most of our English Diuines (lesse practised in matters of this weight) doe vtterly mislike and condemne it.

The enterprise is preuented, and conſpiracie diſcouered, by an honorable Gentleman my kinſman, and late familiar friend, Maſter Edmund Neuill, *priuie and by ſolemne othe (taken vpon the Bible) partie to the matter, whereof I am hardly glad, but nowe ſorie (in my very ſoule) that euer I conceiued or intended it, howe commendable or meritorious ſo euer I thought it. God thanke him, and forgiue me, who woulde not nowe (before God) attempt it (if I had libertie and oportunitie to doe it) to gaine your kingdome. I beſeeche Chriſt that my death and example may aſwell ſatiſſie your Maieſtie, and the worlde, as it ſhall glad and content me.*

The Queene of Scotland is your priſoner, let her be honorably entreated, but yet ſurely garded.

The French King is French, you knowe it well ynough, you will finde him occupied when he ſhould doe you good, he will not looſe a Pilgrimage to ſaue you a crowne. I haue no more to ſay at this time, but that with my hart and ſoule, I doe now honor and loue you, am inwardly ſorie for mine offence, and ready to make you amends by my death and patience. Diſcharge me Aculpa, *but not* Apæna, *good Ladie. And ſo farewell, moſt gracious, and the beſt natured and qualified Queene, that euer liued in England. From the Towre, the 14. of Februarie. 1584.* W. Parry.

Febru. 18. AFter which, to wit, the xviii. of Februarie laſt paſt, *Parry*, in further acknowledging his wicked and intended Treaſons, wrote a letter all of his owne hande in like voluntarie maner to the Lorde Treaſourer of England, and the Earle of Leiceſter, Lord Steward of her Maieſties houſe, the Tenor whereof is as followeth.

William

William Parrys Letter to the Lord Treaſourer, and the Earle of Leyceſter.

MY Lordes, nowe that the conſpiracie is diſcouered, the fault confeſſed, my conſcience cleared, and minde prepared patiently to ſuffer the paines due for ſo hainous a crime: I hope it ſhall not offende you, if crying Miſerere with the poore Publicane, I leaue to deſpaire with curſed Caine. My caſe is rare and ſtrange, and, for any thing I can remember, ſingular: a naturall ſubiect ſolemnely to vowe the death of his naturall Queene, (ſo borne, ſo knowen, and ſo taken by all men) for the reliefe of the afflicted Catholiques, and reſtitution of religion. The matter firſt conceiued in Venice, the ſeruice, (in generall wordes) preſented to the Pope, continued and vndertaken in Paris, and laſtly commended, and warranted by his holineſſe, digeſted & reſolued in England, if it had not bene preuented by accuſation, or by her Maieſties greater lenitie and more gracious vſage of her Catholique ſubiectes. This is my firſt and laſt offence conceiued againſt my Prince or Countrey, and doeth (I cannot denie) conteyne all other faults whatſoeuer. It is nowe to be puniſhed by death, or moſt graciouſly (beyonde all common expectation) to be pardoned. Death I doe confeſſe to haue deſerued: life I doe (with all humilitie) craue, if it may ſtand with the Queenes honour, and policie of the time. To leaue ſo great a treaſon vnpuniſhed, were ſtrange: To drawe it by my death in example, were dangerous: A ſworne ſeruãt to take vpon him ſuch an enterpriſe vpon ſuch a ground, and by ſuch a warrant, hath not bin ſeene in England: To indict him, arraigne him, bring him to the Scaffolde, and to publiſh his offence, can doe no good: To hope that he hath more to diſcouer then is confeſſed, or that at his execution he will vnſay any thing he hath written, is in vaine:

vaine: To conclude, that it is impoſſible for him in time to make ſome part of amẽdes, were very hard, & againſt former experiences. The queſtion then is, whether it be better to kill him, or (leaſt the matter be miſtakẽ) vpon hope of his amendment to pardon him. For mine own opinion (though partial) I will deliuer you my conſcience. The caſe is good Queene Elizabeths, the offence is committed againſt her ſacred perſon, and ſhe may (of her mercie) pardon it without preiudice to any. Then this I ſay, in fewe wordes, as a man more deſirous to diſcharge his troubled conſcience, then to liue. Pardon poore Parry, *and relieue him: for life without liuing is not fit for him. If this may not be, or be thought dangerous, or diſhonourable to the Queenes Maieſtie (as by your fauours, I thinke it full of honour and mercie) then I beſeeche your Lordſhips (and no other) once to heare me before I be indicted, and afterwards (if I muſt dye) humbly to intreate the Queenes Maieſtie to haſten my tryall and execution, which I pray God (with all my heart) may prooue as honourable to her, as I hope it ſhall be happie to me, who will, while I liue, (as I haue done alwayes) pray to Ieſus Chriſt for her Maieſties long and proſperous reigne. From the Towre the 18. of Februarie. 1584.* W. Parry.

AND where in this meane time Sir *Frauncis Walſingham* Secretarie to her Maieſtie, had dealt with one *William Creichton*, a Scot for his birth, and a Ieſuite by his profeſſion, nowe priſoner alſo in the Tower, for that he was apprehended with diuers Plots for inuaſions of this Realme, to vnderſtand of him, if the ſayde *Parry* had euer dealt with him in the parties beyonde the Seas touching that queſtion, whether it were lawful to kill her Maieſtie, or not: the which at that time the ſayd *Creichton* called not to his remembrance: yet after vpon better calling it to minde, vpon the 27. day of February laſt paſt, he wrote to Maiſter Secretarie *Walſingham* thereof voluntary, all of his owne hand, to the effect following.

William

W. Creichtons letter. Febr. 20.

Ight honourable Sir, when your Honour demaunded mee if *M. Parry* did aske mee, If it was leaſon to kill the Queene, in deede and veritie, then I had no remembrance at all therof. But ſince, thinking on the matter, I haue called to minde the whole faſhion of his dealing with me, and ſome of his Arguments: for hee dealt very craftily with mee, I dare not ſay maliciouſly. For I did in no waies thinke of any ſuch deſeine of his, or of any other, and did anſwere him ſimplie after my conſcience and knowledge to the veritie of the queſtion. For after that I had anſwered him twiſe before, *Quòd omnino non liceret*, hee returned late at Euen by reaſon I was to depart early in the next morning towarde *Chamberie* in *Sauoye* where I did remaine, and beeing returned out of the Cloſſe within one of the claſſes of the Colledge, hee proponed to me of new the matter, with his reaſons and arguments. Firſt he alledged the vtilitie of the deed for deliuering of ſo many Catholiques out of miſerie, and reſtitution of the Catholique religion. I anſwered, that the Scripture aunſwereth thereto, ſaying, *Non ſunt facienda mala, vt veniant bona.* So that for no good, howe great that euer it be, may be wrought any euill, howe little that euer it be. Hee replyed that it was not euill to take away ſo great euil, and induce ſo great good. I anſwered, That all good is not to be done, but that onely, *Quod bene & legitime fieri poteſt.* And therefore, *Dixi, Deum magis amare aduerbia quàm nomina: Quia in actionibus magis ei placent bene & legitimè, quam bonum. Ita vt nullum bonum liceat facere, niſi bene & legitimè fieri poſſit. Quod in hoc caſu fieri non poteſt.* Yet ſaide he, that ſeuerall learned men were of the opinion, *Quod liceret.* I anſwered, that they

men perhappes were of the opinion; that for the safetie of many in soule and bodie, they would permit a particular to his daunger, and to the occult iudgement of God: Or perhappes saide so, mooued rather by some compassion and cõmiseration of the miserable estate of the Catholiques, not for any such doctrine that they did finde in their bookes. For it is certain, that such a thing is not licit to a particular, without speciall reuelation diuine, which exceedeth our learning and doctrine. And so he departed from me.

Out of the prison in the Tower, the xx, of Februarie.

Your Honours poore seruitour in Christ Iesu.

Wil. Creichton prisoner.

Februa. 20. AND where also the same *Parry* was on the same xx. day of Februarie examined by *Sir Frauncis Walsingham* knight, what was become of the letter conteined in his confession to be written vnto him by the Cardinall *de Como*, he then answered, that it was consumed and burnt: Februa. 21. and yet after, the next day folowing, being more vehemently vrged vpon that point in examination (because it was knowne that it was not burnt) he confessed where he had left it in the Towne: whereupon, by *Parrys* direction it was sent for where it had bene lapped vp together with other friuolous papers, and written vpon the one side of it, The last will of *William Parry*, the which letter was in the Italian tongue as hereafter followeth, with the same in English accordingly translated.

Amon

A mon Signore, Mon signor Guglielmo Parri.

MOn Signore la Santita di N.S. ha veduto le lettere di V.S. del primo con la fede inclusa, & non può se non laudare la buona dispositione & risolutione che scriue di tenere verso il seruitiò & beneficio publico, nel che la Santita sua lesforta di perseuerare, con farne riuscire li effetti che V.S. promette: Et accioche tanto maggiormente V.S. sia aiutata da quel buon spirito che l'ha mosso, le cõcede sua Beneditione, plenaria Indulgenza & remissione di tutti li peccati, secondo che V. S. ha chiesto, assicurandosi che oltre il merito, che n'hauera in cielo, vuole anco sua Santita constituirsi debitore a riconoscere li meriti di V. S. in ogni miglior modo che potra, & cio tanto piu, quanto che V.S. usa maggior modestia in non pretender niente. Metta dunq, ad effetto li suoi santi & honorati pensieri, & attenda a star sano. Che per fine io me le offero di core, & le desidero ogni buono & felice successo. Di Roma a. xxx. di Gennaro. M. D. Lxxxiiij.

Al piacer di V. S.
N. Cardinale di Como.

Al Sig. Guglielmo Parri.

Cardinall de Comos letter to Wil. Parry, 30. Ianu. 1584. by accompt of Rome.

MOnsignor, the Holines of our Lord hath seene the letter of your Signorie of the first with the assurance included, and cannot but commende the good disposition and resolution which you write to holde towards the seruice and benefite publique:

wherein his Holines doeth exhort you to perſeuere, with cauſing to bring foorth the effects which your Signorie promiſeth. And to the ende you may bee ſo much the more holpen by that good ſpirit which hath mooued you thereunto, his Bleſſednes doeth graunt to you plenarie indulgence and remiſſion of all your ſinnes, according to your requeſt. Aſſuring you, that beſides the merite that you ſhall receiue therefore in heauen, his holyneſſe will further make himſelfe debtour to reknowledge the deſeruings of your Signorie in the beſt maner that he can. And that ſo much the more, in that your Signorie vſeth the greater modeſtie in not pretending any thing. Put therefore to effect your holy and honourable thoughts, and attend your health. And to conclude, I offer my ſelfe vnto you heartily, and do deſire all good and happie ſucceſſe. From Rome the xxx. of Ianuarie 1584.

At the pleaſure of your Signorie,

N. Card. of Como.

Febr. 22. VPon al which former accuſation, declaration, confeſſions & proofes, vpon Sunday the xxii. day of Febꝛuary laſt paſt, at Weſtminſter Hall, before *Sir Chriſtopher Wray* knight, chiefe Iuſtice of England, *Sir Gilbert Gerrard* knight, Maſter of the Rolles, *Sir Edmund Anderſon* knight, Chiefe Iuſtice of ꝑ common plees, Sir *Roger Manwood* knight, Chiefe Baron of the Exchequer, Sir *Thomas Gawdy* knight, one of the Iuſtices of ꝑ plees beꝛe her Maieſtie to be holden, and *Wil. Perriam*, one of the Iuſtices of the common plees, by vertue of her Maieſties Commiſſion to them & others in that behalf directed: the ſame *Parry* was indicted of high Treaſon, foꝛ intending and practiſing the death and deſtruction of her Maieſtie, whom God long proſper, & preſerue frō all ſuch wicked attempts. The tenoꝛ of which indictment, appeareth moꝛe particularly in the courſe of his Arraignment folowing.

The

The maner of the Arraignement of *William Parry* the xxv. of Februarie, 1584. at Weſtminſter, in the place where the courte commonly called the Kings Bench, is vſually kept by vertue of her Maieſties Commiſſion of Oyer & Terminer, before *Henrie L. Hunſdon* gouernour of Barwicke, *Sir Francis Knolles* Knight, Treaſorer of the Queenes Maieſties houſholde, *Sir Iames Croſt* Knight, Comptroller of the ſame houſhold, *Sir Chriſtopher Hatton* Knight, Vicechamberlaine to her Maieſtie, *Sir Chriſtopher Wray* Knight, Chiefe Iuſtice of Englande, *Sir Gilberte Gerrard* Knight, maſter of the Rolles, *Sir Edmund Anderſon* Knight, chiefe Iuſtice of the Common Plees, *Sir Roger Manwood* Knight, chiefe Barron of the Eſchequer, and *Sir Thomas Hennage* Knight, Treaſorer of the Chamber.

FIrſt, three Proclamations for ſilence were made according to the vſuall courſe in ſuch caſes. Then the Lieutenant was commaunded to returne his precept, which did ſo, and brought the priſoner to the Barre, to whom *Miles Sandes* Eſquire, Clerke of the Crowne ſayde, *William Parrie*, hold vp thy hand, and he did ſo. Then ſaid ỳ Clerke of the crowne, Thou art here indicted by the othes of xii. good and lawfull men of the Countie of Middleſex, before *Sir Chriſtopher Wray* Knight, and others which tooke the Indictment by the name of *William Parry* late of London Gentleman, otherwiſe called *William Parry*, late of London Doctor of the lawe, for ỳ thou as a falſe traitor againſt the moſt noble and Chriſtian Prince, Queene Elizabeth thy moſt gracious Soueraigne and liege Ladie, not hauing the feare of God before thine eyes, nor regarding thy due allegiance, but being ſeduced by the inſtigation The Indictment.

ſtigation of the deuill, and intending to withdrawe and extinguiſh the heartie loue and due obedience, which true and faithfull Subiectes ſhoulde beare vnto the ſame our Soueraigne Ladie, diddeſt at Weſtminſter in the Countie of Middleſex on the firſt day of Februarie, in the xxvi. yeere of her Highneſſe raigne, and at diuers other times and places in the ſame Countie, maliciouſly, and trayterouſly conſpire and compaſſe, not onely to depriue and depoſe the ſame our Soueraigne Ladie of her Royall eſtate, title and dignitie, but alſo to bring her highneſſe to death and finall deſtruction, and ſedition in the Realme to make, and the gouernement thereof to ſubuert, and the ſincere religion of God eſtabliſhed in her highneſſe dominions to alter & ſubuert. And that, whereas thou *William Parry*, by thy letters ſent vnto *Gregorie* Biſhoppe of Rome, diddeſt ſignifie vnto the ſame Biſhoppe thy purpoſes and intentions aforeſayde, and thereby diddeſt praye and require the ſame Biſhoppe to giue thee abſolution, that thou afterwards, that is to ſay, the laſt day of March in the xxvi. yeere aforeſayde, diddeſt trayterouſly receiue letters frō one called *Cardinall de Como*, directed vnto thee *William Parry*, whereby the ſame Cardinall did ſignifie vnto thee, that the Biſhoppe of Rome had peruſed thy letters, and allowed of thine intent, and that to that ende hee had abſolued thee of all thy ſinnes, and by the ſame letter did animate and ſtirre thee to proceede with thine enterpriſe, and that therupon, thou, the laſt day of Auguſt in the xxvi. yeere aforeſaide, at Saint Giles in the fieldes, in ỹ ſame Countie of Middleſex, diddeſt trayterouſly conferre with one *Edmunde Neuill* Eſquire, vttering to him all thy wicked and traytcrous deuiſes, and then and there diddeſt moue him to aſſiſt thee therin, & to ioyne with thee in thoſe wicked treaſons aforeſayd, againſt ỹ peace of our ſayd Soueraigne Ladie the Queene, her Crowne & dignity: What ſayeſt thou *William Parry*, art thou guilty of theſe treaſons whereof thou ſtandeſt here indicted, or not

guiltie?

guiltie?

Then *Parry* sayde, Before I pleade not guiltie, or confesse my selfe guiltie, I pray you giue me leaue to speake a fewe wordes: and with humbling himselfe, began in this maner. God saue Queene Elizabeth, and God sende mee grace to discharge my duetie to her, and to send you home in charitie. But touching the matters that I am indicted of, some were in one place, and some in another, and done so secretely, as none can see into them, except þ they had eyes like vnto God, wherefore I will not lay my blood vpon the Iurie, but doe minde to confesse the indictment. It containeth but the parts that haue bene openly redde, I pray you tel me: Whereunto it was answered, that the Indictment conteined the partes he had heard redde, and no other: whereupon the Clarke of the Crowne saide vnto *Parry*, *Parry*, thou must answere directly to the indictment, whether thou be guiltie or not.

Parries answere to the indictment.

Then sayde *Parry*, I doe confesse that I am guiltie of al that is therein cõtained: And further too, I desire not life, but desire to die. Vnto which the clarke of þ Crowne sayd, If you confesse it, you must confesse it in maner and fourme as it is compyled in the Indictment. Whereunto he sayd, I doe confesse it in maner and fourme as the same is set downe, and all the circumstances thereof. Then the confession being recorded, the Queenes learned counsel being readie to pray iudgement vpon the same confession, Master Vicechamberlaine sayde, These matters contained in this indictment, and confessed by this man, are of great importance: they touch the person of the Queenes most excellent Maiestie in the highest degree, the very state and welldoing of the whole common wealth, and the trueth of Gods worde established in these her Maiesties dominions, and the open demonstration of that capitall enuie of the man of Rome, that hath set him selfe against God and all godlinesse, all good Princes and good gouernment, and against good men. Wherefore, I pray

Parrie confesseth that he is guilty of all things conteyned in the indictment.

you, for the satisfaction of this great multitude, let the whole matter appeare, that euery one may see that the matter of it selfe is as bad as ẏ indictment purporteth, & as he hath confessed. Wherto in respect ẏ the Iustice of ẏ Realme hath bin of late very impudẽtly slaũdered, al yeelded as a thing necessarie to satisfie the world in particular, of ẏ which was but summarily comprised in ẏ indictmẽt, though in the lawe, his confession serued sufficiently to haue proceeded thereupon vnto iudgement. Whereupon the Lordes and others the Commissioners, her Maiesties learned Counsel, and *Parry* him self agreed, that *Parrys* confession (taken the xi. and xiii. of Februarie 1584. before the Lord of *Hunsdon*, master Vicechamberlaine, and master Secretarie,) and Cardinall *de Como* his letters, and *Parrys* letters to the Lorde Treasourer and Lorde Stewarde, should be openly read.

And *Parry*, for the better satisfying of the people and standers by, offered to reade them him selfe: but being tolde that the order was, the Clerke of the Crowne should reade them, it was so resolued of all partes. And then master Vicechamberlaine caused to be shewed to *Parry* his sayde confession, the Cardinals letter, and his owne letter aforesayde, which after hee had particularly viewed euery leafe thereof, he confessed, and sayde openly they were the same.

Then sayde master Vicechamberlaine, Before we proceede to shewe what he hath confessed, what say you, sayd he to *Parry*, is that which you haue confessed here true, and did you confesse it freely and willingly of your selfe, or was then any extort meanes vsed to drawe it from you?

Surely sayde *Parry*, I made that confession freely without any constraint, and that is all true, and more too: for there is no treason that hath bene sithens the first yeere of the Queene any way touching religion, sauing receipt of *Agnus dei*, and perswading of others, wherein I haue

not

not much dealt, but I haue offended in it. And I haue also deliuered mine opinion in writing, who ought bee successor to the crowne, which he sayde to be treason also.

Parrys confession of his treasons was red by his owne assent.

Then his confession of the eleuenth and thirteenth of Februarie, all of his owne hand writing, & before particularly sette downe, was openly, and distinctly red by the Clarke of the crowne. And ꝑ done, ꝑ Cardinall *di Como* his letter in Italian was deliuered vnto *Parrys* hande, by the direction of Maister Vicechamberlayne, which *Parry* there perused, and openly affirmed to bee wholy of ꝑ Cardinals owne hand writing, and the seale to bee his owne also, and to bee with a Cardinals hat on it: And himselfe did openly read it in Italian, as before is set downe. And the wordes bearing sence as it were written to a Bishop or to a man of such degree, it was demaunded of him by Maister Vicechamberlayne, whether he had not taken the degree of a Bishoppe? He said, No: But said at first, those termes were proper to the degree hee had taken: and after saide that the Cardinall did vouchsafe as of a fauour to write so to him. Then the coppie of that letter in English as before is also set downe, was in like maner openly red by the Clarke of the Crowne, which *Parry* then acknowledged to be truely translated.

A letter of Cardinall *di Como* to Parry, also red.

And thereupon was shewed vnto *Parry* his letter of ꝑ xviii. of Februarie, written to the Lord Treasorer, and the Lord Steward: which he confessed to bee all of his owne hand writing and was as before is set downe.

Parrys letter of the 18. of Febru. to the L. Treasu. and the Earle of Leycester red.

These matters being redde openly for manifestation of the matter, *Parry* prayed leaue to speake: whereto Maister Vicechamberlayne sayde, If you will say any thing for the better opening to the worlde of those your foule & horrible facts, speake on: but if you meane to make any excuse of that which you haue confessed, which els would haue bene and do stand proued against you, for my part, I will not sit to heare you.

Then her Maiesties Attourney generall stood vp & said,

It appeareth before you my Lords, ꝑ this man hath bene indicted & arraigned of seuerall most haynous and horrible treasons, and hath confessed them, which is before you of recorde: wherefore there resteth no more to be done, but for the Court to giue iudgement accordingly, which here I require in the behalfe of the Queenes Maiestie.

The Queenes Attourney requireth Iudgement.

Then said *Parry*, I pray you heare me for discharging of my conscience. I will not goe about to excuse my selfe, nor to seeke to saue my life, I care not for it, you haue my confession of recorde, that is enough for my life: And I meane to vtter more, for which I were worthie to die. And sayde, I pray you heere mee, in that I am to speake to discharge my conscience.

Then said Maister Vicechamberlayne, *Parry*, then doe thy duetie according to conscience, and vtter all that thou canst say concerning those thy most wicked facts.

Then said *Parry*, My cause is rare, singular & vnnaturall, conceyued at *Venice*, presented in generall wordes to the Pope, vndertaken at *Paris*, commended & allowed of by his Holines, and was to haue bene executed in England, if it had not bene preuented. Yea, I haue committed many treasons, for I haue committed treason in being reconciled, and treason in taking absolution. There hath bene no Treason sithens the first yeere of the Queenes reigne touching religion, but that I am guiltie of (except for receiuing of *Agnus Dei*, and perswading as I haue said:) And yet neuer intended to kil Queene *Elizabeth*. I appeale to her owne knowledge and to my Lorde Treasurers and Maister Secretaries.

Parry had for his credit afore time said very secretly, that he had bene solicited beyond the seas to commit the fact, but he would not do it, wherewith he craftily abused both ꝑ Queenes Maiesty, & those two Counsellers whereof he now would helpe himselfe with these false speeches against most manifest proofes.

Then said my Lord *Hunsdon*, Hast thou acknowledged it so often, and so plainly in writing vnder thy hande, and heere of recorde: and nowe, when thou shouldest haue thy iudgement according to that which thou hast confessed thy selfe guiltie of, doest thou goe backe againe, and deny the effect of all? Howe can wee beleeue that thou nowe sayest?

Then

Then ſaid Maſter Vicechamberlaine, This is abſurd. Thou haſt not onely confeſſed generally, that thou wert guilty according to the inditemẽt, which ſummarily, and yet in expreſſe woordes doeth conteyne that thou haddeſt trayterouſly compaſſed & intended the death and deſtruction of her Maieſtie: but thou alſo ſaydeſt particularly that thou wert guilty of euery of the Treaſons conteined therein, whereof the ſame was one in playne and expreſſe letter ſet downe, and red vnto thee. Yea, thou ſaydeſt that thou wert guilty of moe Treaſons too beſides theſe. And diddeſt thou not vpon thy examination voluntaryly confeſſe, howe thou waſt moued firſt thereunto by miſlike of thy ſtate after thy departure out of the Realme, And that thou diddeſt miſlike her Maieſtie for that ſhee had done nothing for thee, howe by wicked Papiſtes and Popiſh bookes, thou wert perſwaded that it was lawfull to kill her Maieſtie, howe thou wert by reconciliation become one of that wicked ſort, that helde her Maieſtie for neyther lawfull Queene, nor Chriſtian, And ỳ it was meritorious to kill her? And diddeſt thou not ſignifie that thy purpoſe to the Pope by letters, and receiuedſt letters frõ the Cardinall, howe he allowed of thyne intent, & excited thee to perfourme it, and thereupon diddeſt receiue abſolution? And diddeſt thou not conceyue it, promiſe it, vow it, ſweare it, and receyue the Sacrament that thou wouldeſt doe it? And diddeſt not thou thereupon affirme, that thy vowes were in heauen, and thy letters and promyſes on earth to bynde thee to doe it? And that whatſoeuer her Maieſtie would haue done for thee, coulde not haue remoued thee from that intention or purpoſe, vnleſſe ſhe would haue deſiſted from dealing as ſhee hath done with the Catholiques, as thou calleſt them? All this thou haſt plainely confeſſed: and I proteſt before this great aſſembly, thou haſt confeſſed it more playnely and in better ſort, then my memory will ſerue me to vtter: And ſayeſt thou now, that thou neuer mentſt it?

M. Vicechamberlaines ſpeaches, prouing manifeſtly Partys traiterous intentions.

Ah sayde *Parry*, your honours knowe, howe my Confession vpon myne examination was extorted.

Then both the Lord *Hunsdon* and Master Vicechamberlayne affirmed, that there was no torture or threatning wordes offered him.

But *Parry* then sayde, that they tolde him, that if hee would not confesse willingly, he should haue torture: whereunto their honours answered, that they vsed not any speech or worde of torture to him.

You sayde, sayd *Parry*, that you would proceede with rigour against me, if I would not confesse it of my selfe.

But their honours expressly affirmed, that they vsed no such wordes. But I will tell thee, sayd Master Vicechamberlayne, what we saide. I spake these wordes, If you will willingly vtter the truth of your selfe, it may do you good, and I wish you to doe so: If you will not, wee must then proceede in ordinary course to take your examination. Whereunto you answered, that you would tell the trueth of your selfe. Was not this true? which then hee yeelded vnto.

Parry reproued of false speaches, and so by himselfe also confessed.

And hereunto, her Maiesties Attourney generall put *Parry* in remembraunce what speeches hee vsed to the Lieutenant of the Tower, the Queenes Maiesties Seriant at Lawe, Master *Gaudie*, and the same Attourney on Saterday ỳ twentieth of Februarie last, at ỳ Tower, vpon that hee was by them then examined by order from ỳ Lords: which was, that he acknowledged he was most myldely and fauourably dealt with, in all his examinations, which he also at the Barre then acknowledged to be true.

Then Master Vicechamberlayne sayde, that it was wonder to see the magnanymitie of her Maiestie, which after that thou haddest opened those trayterous practises in sort as thou hast layd it downe in thy confession, was neuertheless such, and so farre from all feare, as that shee woulde not so much as acquaint any one of her highnes

priuie

priuie Counsel with it, to his knowledge, no not vntil after this thine enterprise discouered & made manifest. And besides that which thou hast set downe vnder thine owne hande, thou diddest confesse, that thou haddest prepared two Scottish Daggers, fit for such a purpose: and those being disposed away by thee, thou diddest say that another would serue thy turne. And with all, *Parry*, diddest thou not also confesse before vs howe wonderfully thou wert appauled and perplexed vpon a suddaine at the presence of her Maiestie at Hampton Court this last Sommer, saying that thou diddest thinke thou then sawest in her, the very likenes & image of king Henry the seuenth: And that therewith, and vpon some speeches vsed by her Maiestie, thou diddest turne about and weepe bitterly to thy selfe: And yet diddest call to mynde that thy vowes were in heauen, thy letters and promises on earth, and that therefore thou diddest say with thy selfe, that there was no remedy but to do it: diddest thou not confesse this: the which he acknowledged.

Then saide the lorde *Hunsdon*, Sayest thou nowe, that thou diddest neuer meane to kill the Queene: diddest thou not confesse, that when thou diddest vtter this practise of trecherie to her Maiestie, that thou diddest couer it with al the skill thou haddest, and that it was done by thee, rather to get credite and accesse thereby, then for any regard thou haddest of her person: but in trueth thou diddest it, that thereby thou mightest haue better opportunitie to performe thy wicked enterprise. And wouldest thou haue runne into such feare as thou diddest confesse that thou wert in, when thou diddest vtter it, if thou haddest neuer meant it: what reason canst thou shewe for thy selfe: With that he cryed out in a furious maner, I neuer meant to kill her: I will lay my blood vpon Queene *Elizabeth* and you, before God and the worlde: and thereupon fell into a rage and euill wordes with the Queenes Maiesties Attourney generall.

The L. of Hunsdons speaches conuincing Parry manifestly of his treason.

Then said the lord *Hunsdon*, This is but thy popish pride

and ostentation, which thou wouldest haue to be told to thy fellowes of that faction, to make them beleeue that thou diest for poperie, when thou diest for most horrible and dangerous treasons against her Maiestie, and thy whole countrey. For thy laying of thy blood, it must lye on thine owne head, as a iust reward of thy wickednesse. The lawes of the Realme most iustly condemne thee to die out of thine owne mouth, for the conspiring the destruction both of her Maiestie, and of vs all: therefore thy blood be vpon thee, neither her Maiestie, nor we at any time sought it, thy selfe hast spilt it.

Then he was asked what he coulde say, why iudgemẽt of death ought not to be awarded against him.

Whereto he said, he did see that he must die, because he was not setled.

What meanest thou by that, said maister Vicechamberlaine. Said he, looke into your studie, and into your newe bookes, and you shall finde what I meane.

I protest (said his honour) I knowe not what thou meanest: thou doest not well to vse such darke speaches, vnlesse thou wouldest plainely vtter what thou meanest thereby. But he saide, he cared not for death, and that hee would laye his blood amongst them.

The L. chiefe Iustices speache to Parry.

Then spake the lorde chiefe Iustice of England, being required to giue the iudgement, and saide, *Parry*, you haue bene much heard, and what you meane by being setled, I knowe not, but I see you are so setled in poperie, that you cannot settle your selfe to be a good subiect. But touching that you should say to stay iudgement from being giuen against you, your speaches must be of one of these kindes, either to proue the Inditement (which you haue confessed to be true) to be insufficient in lawe, or els to pleade somewhat touching her Maiesties mercie, why Iustice should not be done of you. All other speaches wherein you haue vsed great libertie, is more then by lawe you can aske. These be the matters you must looke to, what say you to them?

them: whereto he said nothing.

Then said the lord chiefe Justice, *Parry*, thou hast bene before this time indited of diuers most horrible and hatefull treasons, cõmitted against thy most gratious Soueraigne, and native countrey: the matter most detestable, the maner most subtile and dangerous, and the occasions and meanes that led thee thereunto, most vngodly and villanous. That thou diddest intende it, it is most euident by thy selfe. The matter was the destruction of a most sacred and an anoynted Queene thy soueraigne & mystresse, who hath shewed thee such fauour, as some thy betters haue not obteined: yea, the ouerthrowe of thy countrey wherein thou wert borne, and of a most happie common wealth whereof thou art a member, and of such a Queene, as hath bestowed on thee the benefite of all benefites in this worlde, that is, thy life, heretofore graunted thee by her mercie when thou haddest lost it by Justice and desert. Yet thou her seruant, sworne to defende her, mentest with thy bloodie hande to haue taken away her life, that mercifully gaue thee thine when it was yeelded into her handes. This is the matter wherein thou hast offended. The maner was most subtile and dangerous beyonde all that before thee haue committed any wickednes against her Maiestie: For thou making shewe as if thou wouldest simplie haue vttered for her saftie the euill that others had contriued, diddest but seeke thereby credite & accesse, that thou mightest take the apter opportunitie for her destruction. And for the occasions and meanes that mewe thee on, they were most vngodly and villanous, As the perswasions of the Pope, of Papists and Popish bookes. The Pope pretendeth that hee is a pastour, when as in trueth hee is farre from feeding of the flocke of Christ, but rather as a woolfe seeketh but to feede on and to sucke out the blood of true Christians, and as it were thirsteth after the blood of our most gracious and Christian Queene. And these Papists and Popish bookes, while they pretende to set foorth diuinitie, they doe in deede

most vngodly teach and perſwade that which is quite contrarie both to God and his woꝛde. Foꝛ the woꝛd teacheth obedience of ſubiectes towardes Pꝛinces, and foꝛbiddeth any pꝛiuate man to kill: but they teache ſubiectes to diſobey Pꝛinces, and that a pꝛiuate wicked perſon may kill. Yea, and whom? a moſt godly Queene, and their owne naturall and moſt gracious ſoueraigne. Let all men theꝛefoꝛe take heede how they receiue any thing frō him, beare oꝛ reade any of their bookes, and howe they conferre with any Papiſts. God graunt her Maieſtie, that ſhe may know by thee, howe euer thee truſt ſuch like to come ſo neere her perſon. But ſee the ende, and why thou diddeſt it, and it will appeare to bee a moſt miſerable, fearefull and foolish thing: Foꝛ thou diddeſt imagine, that it was to relieue thoſe that thou calleſt Catholiques, who were moſt likely amongſt all others to haue felt the woꝛſt of it, if thy deuilish practiſe had taken effect. But ſith thou haſt bene indited of the treaſons compꝛiſed in ỹ inditement, and thereupon arraigned, and haſt confeſſed thy ſelfe guiltie of them, the Court doth award, that thou ſhalt be had from hence to the place whence thou diddeſt come, and ſo drawne through the open citie of Londō vpon an hurdle to the place of execution, and there to bee hanged and let downe aliue, and thy pꝛiuie partes cutte off, and thy entrals taken out and burnt in thy ſight, then thy head to be cut off, and thy body to be deuided in foure partes, and to be diſpoſed at her Maieſties pleaſure: And God haue mercie on thy ſoule.

The fourme of the iudgement againſt the traytour.

Parry neuertheleſſe perſiſted ſtill in his rage and fonde ſpeach, and ragingly there ſayd, he there ſummoned Queene *Elizabeth* to anſwere foꝛ his blood before God: whereuppon, the Lieutenant of the Tower was cōmaunded to take him from the barre: and ſo he did. And vpon his departure, the people ſtriken as it were at heart with the hoꝛrour of his intended enterpꝛiſe, ceaſed not, but purſued him with outcryes, as, Away with the Traitour, away with him, & ſuch like: whereupon he was conueyed to the Barge, to paſſe

to

to the Tower againe by water: and the Court was adiorned.

After which, vpon the second day of this instant March, *William Parry* was by vertue of processe in that behalfe awarded from the same Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, deliuered by the Lieutenant of the Tower early in the morning, vnto the Sheriffes of London and Middlesex, who receiued him at the Tower hill, and thereupon, according to the iudgement, caused him there to be foorthwith set on the hurdell. From whence hee was drawen thereupon through the middest of the Citie of London, vnto the place for his execution in the Pallace at Westminster: where, hauing long time of stay admitted vnto him before his execution, he most maliciously and impudently, after some other vayne discourses eftsoones and often deliuered in speach, that he was neuer guiltie of any intention to kill Queene Elizabeth, and so (without any request made by him to the people to pray to God for him, or prayer publiquely vsed by himselfe for ought that appeared: but such as he vsed, if he vsed any, was priuate to himselfe) he was executed according to the iudgement. And nowe for his intent, howe so euer hee pretended the contrary in words, yet by these his owne writings, confessions, letters, and many other proofes afore here expressed, it is most manifest to all persons, howe horrible his intentions and Treasons were, and how iustly he suffered for the same: and thereby greatly to be doubted, that as he had liued a long time vainely and vngodly, and like an Atheist and godlesse man, so hee continued the same course till his death to the outwarde sight of men.

2. Martii, W. Parry the traitour executed.

Here endeth the true and playne course and processe of the Treasons, arrest, arraignement, and execution of *William Parry* the Traitour.

An addition not vnneceſſarie for this purpoſe.

FOrasmuch as *Parry* in the abundance of his proude and arrogãt humour, hath often both in his confeſſion, and letters, pretended ſome great and grieuous cauſes of diſcontentment againſt her Maieſtie, and the preſent ſtate: It ſhall not bee impertinent, for better ſatiſfaction of al perſons, to ſet forth ſimplie and truely, the condition and qualitie of the man, what he was by birth and education, and in what courſe of life he had liued.

This vile and trapterous wretch was one of the ponger ſonnes of a poore man, called *Harry ap Dauid*: hee dwelled in Northwales in a litle village called *Northoppe*, in the Coũty of Flint: there he kept a common ale houſe. which was the beſt and greateſt ſtay of his liuing. In that houſe was this Traytour borne, his mother was the reputed daughter of one *Conway* a Prieſt, Parſon of a poore Pariſh called *Halkyn* in the ſame countie of Flint: his eldeſt brother dwelleth at this preſent in the ſame houſe, and there keepeth an alehouſe as his father did before him. This traytour in his childehood ſo ſoone as hee had learned a litle to write and read, was put to ſerue a poore man dwelling in *Cheſter*, named *Iohn Fiſher*, who profeſſed to haue ſome ſmall ſkill & vnderſtanding in the law. With him he continued diuers yeres, and ſerued as a Clerke, to write ſuch things, as in that trade which his maſter vſed, he was appoynted. During this time, he learned the Engliſh tongue, and at ſuch times of leaſure, as the poore man his maſter had no occaſion otherwiſe to

vſe

vse him, he was suffered to goe to the grammer Schole, where he got some litle vnderstanding in ỹ Latin tongue. In this his childhood, he was noted by such as best knew him, to be of a most villanous & dangerous nature and disposition. He did often runne away from his master, and was often taken & brought to him againe. His master, to correct his peruerse and frowarde conditions, did many times shut him as prysoner in some close place of his house, & many times caused him to be chayned, locked, & clogged, to stay his running away. Yet all was in vayne: for about the thirde yeere of her Maiesties raigne, for his last farewel to his poore master, he ranne away from him, and came to London to seeke his aduentures. Hee was then constrayned to seeke what trade he coulde to liue by, and to get meate and drinke for his bellie, and clothes for his backe. His good happe in the ende was to be entertained in place of seruice aboue his desert, where hee stayed not long, but shifted himselfe diuers times from seruice to seruice, and from one master to another. Nowe he began to forget his olde home, his birth, his education, his parents, his friendes, his owne name, and what he was. He aspired to greater matters, he challenged the name & title of a great gentleman, he vanted himselfe to be of kin and alied to noble and worshipfull, hee left his olde name which he did beare, & was cõmonly called by in his childhood, and during all the time of his abode in the countrey, which was *William ap Harry* (as the maner in Wales is.) And because he would seeme to be in deede the man which he pretended, hee tooke vpon him the name of *Parry*, being the synname of diuers gentlemen of great worship, and hauiour. And because his mothers name by her father a simple priest, was *Conway*: He pretended kinred to the familie of *Sir Iohn Conway*, & so therby made himselfe of kin to *Edmund Neuil*. Being thus set forth with his new name and newe title of gentleman, and commended by some of his good fauourers, he matched himselfe in mariage with

a widowe in Southwales, who brought him some reasonable portion of wealth. She liued with him but a short time, and the wealth he had with her lasted not long: it was soone consumed with his dissolute and wastfull maner of life. He was then driuen to his wonted shifts, his creditors were many, the debt which he owed, great, he had nothing wherewith to make payment, he was continually pursued by Seriants and Officers to arrest him, he did often by sleightes and shiftes escape from them. In this his needy and poore estate, he sought to repaire himselfe againe by a newe match in mariage with another widowe, which before was the wife of one Richard Heywood. This matter was so earnestly followed by himselfe, and so effectually commended by his friends and fauourers, that the silly woman yeelded to take him to husband: a match in euery respect very vnequall and vnfit: her wealth and yeerely liuelihood was very great, his poore and base estate worse then nothing, he very young, she of such age, as for yeeres she might haue bene his mother. When hee had thus possessed himselfe of his newe wiues wealth, he omitted nothing that might serue for a prodigall, dissolute, and most vngodly course of life. His ryot and excesse was vnmeasurable, hee did most wickedly defloure his wiues owne daughter, and sundry wayes pitifully abuse the olde mother: He caried himselfe for his outwarde port and countenance (so long as his olde wiues bagges lasted) in such sort, as might well haue suffised for a man of very good hauiour and degree. But this lasted not long, his proude heart and wastfull hande had soone powred out olde Heywoods wealth. He then fell againe to his wonted shiftes, borowed where he could finde any to lend, and ingaged his credit so farre as any would trust him. Amongst others, he became greatly indebted to *Hugh Hare*, the gentleman before named. Who after long forbearing of his money, sought to recouer it by ordinarie meanes of Lawe. For this cause *Parry* conceiued great displeasure against him,

which

which hee pursued with all malice, euen to the seeking of his life. In this murtherous intent, hee came in the night time to *M. Hares* chamber in the Temple, broke open the dooze, assaulted him, and wounded him grieuously, and so left him in great danger of life. Foz this offence he was apprehended, committed to Newgate, indicted of burgularie, arraigned, and founde guiltie by a very substantiall Jurie, and condemned to be hanged, as the Law in that case requireth. He standing thus conuicted, her Maiestie of her most gracious clemencie, and pitifull disposition, tooke compassion vpon him, pardoned his offence, and gaue him his life, which by the Lawe and due course of Justice hee ought then to haue lost. After this hee taried not long, but pretending some causes of discontentment, departed the Realme, and trauelled beyonde the seas. Howe hee demeaned himselfe there from time to time, and with whom he conuersed, is partly in his owne confession touched before. This is the man, this is his race, which hee feared should be spotted if he miscaried in therecution of his traiterous enterprise, this hath bene the course of his life, these are the great causes of his discontentment.

Parry condemned for burgularie, pardoned of the Queene.

And whereas at his arraignement and execution, hee pretended great care of the disobedient popish subiectes of this Realme, whom he called Catholiques, and in very insolent sort seemed to glory greatly in the profession of his pretensed Catholique religion: The whole course and action of his life sheweth plainely, how prophanely and irreligiously he did alwayes beare himselfe. He vaunted, that for these two and twentie yeeres past he had bene a Catholique, and during all that time neuer receiued the Communion: yet before he traueyled beyond the Seas, at three seuerall times within the compasse of those two and twentie yeeres, he did voluntarily take the othe of obedience to the Queenes Maiestie, set downe in ỹ statute made in the first yere of her highnesse reigne, by which, amongst other things, he did testifie and declare in his conscience, that no

forraigne prince, person, prelate, state, or potentate, hath or ought hath haue any iurisdiction, power, preeminence, or authoritie, Ecclesiastical or Spiritual, within this Realme, and therefore did vtterly renounce and forsake all forraine iurisdictions, powers, and authorities, and did promise to beare faith and true allegiance to the Queenes highnesse, her heires and lawfull successours.

With what conscience or religion, he tooke that othe so often, if he were then a Papist in deede, as sithence the discouerie of his treasons he pretended, let his best friends the Papists themselues iudge. But perhaps it may be saide, that he repented those his offences past: that since those three othes so taken by him, he was twise reconciled to the Pope, and so his conscience cleared, and he become a newe man, and (which is more) that in the time of his last trauel, he cast away all his former lewde maners: that he changed his degree and habite, and bought or begged the graue title of a Doctor of lawe, for which hee was well qualified with a litle grammer schoole latine: that he had plenary indulgence, and remission of all his sinnes, in consideration of his vndertaking of so holy an enterprise as to kill Queene Elizabeth, a sacred anoynted Queene, his natural and Soueraigne Ladie: that he promised to the Pope, and vowed to God to perfourme it: that he confirmed the same by receiuing the Sacrament at the Iesuites, at one Altar with his two beaupeeres, the Cardinalles of Vandosme and Narbone: and that since his last returne into England, he did take his othe vpon the Bible to execute it. These reasons may seeme to beare some weight in deede amongst his friendes the Iesuites, and other Papistes of state, who haue speciall skill in matters of such importance.

But nowe lately in the beginning of this Parliament in Nouember last, hee did eftsones solemnely in publique place take the othe before mentioned, of obedience to her Maiestie. Howe that may stande with his reconciliations

to

to the Pope, and with his promises, vowes, and othe to kill the Queene, it is a thing can hardly bee warranted, vnlesse it bee by some speciall priuiledge of the Popes omnipotencie.

But let him haue the glorie hee desired, to liue and die a Papist. Hee deserued it, it is fit for him, his death was correspondent to the course of his life, which was disloyall, periured, and traiterous towardes her Maiestie, and falle and perfidious towardes the Pope himselfe, and his Catholiques, if they will beleeue his solemne protestations which he made at his arraignement and execution, that he neuer ment nor intended any hurt to her Highnes person. For if that be true, where are then his vowes which he said were in heauen, his letters & promises vpon earth? Why hath he stollen out of the Popes shoppe so large an Indulgence and plenarie remission of all his sinnes, and meant to performe nothing that hee promised? Why was his deuotion and zeale so highly commended? Why was hee so specially prayed for and remembred at the Altar? All these great fauours were then bestowed vpon him without cause or desert: for hee deceiued the Pope, he deceiued the Cardinals, and Iesuites, with a falle semblance, and pretence to do that thing which he neuer meant.

But the matter is cleare, the conspiracie, and his traiterous intent is too plaine and euident: it is the Lorde that reuealed it in time, and preuented their malice: there lacked no wil, or readinesse in him to execute that horrible fact. It is the Lorde that hath preserued her Maiestie from all the wicked practises and conspiracies of that hellish rable: it is hee that hath most graciously deliuered her from the hands of this traiterous miscreant. The Lord is her onely defence in whome shee hath alwayes trusted.

The

The Printer to the *Reader.*

WHEN I had taken in hande, and beganne the printing of this treatiſe or declaration aforeſaide, a gentleman of good vnderſtanding and learning, came to me, and being made acquainted by mee with the former treatiſe, hee ſaide, that hee had by conference with diuers that were at the araignement of this traytor, where alſo he himſelfe was preſent, collected together the whole proceeding againſt him, and had alſo attained to the viewe of all his cõfeſſions, his letters, and other writings there publiſhed againſt him: by all which, hee had gathered into a ſhorte Treatiſe moſt manifeſt proofes of the horrible treaſon intended by the Traytor againſt her Maieſtie.

And although the former treatiſe doeth at length manifeſtly declare the ſame, yet I required this Gentleman my friende, to graunt mee the copying of his collections, which hee was willing to doe: And ſo I haue bene bolde, for the more ample ſatisfaction of euery reader, to adde the ſame hereunto. Wherein alſo (gentle Reader) thou ſhalt finde inſerted theſe Figures, 1. 2. 3. 4. &c. till 13. And the like in the Traitors owne Confeſſion, by which is noted the principall pointes of the drift of this moſt horrible Treaſon.

(:)

A fewe

A fewe obſeruations gathered out of the very wordes and writings of *William Parry* the traytour, applied to proue his trayterous coniuration, with a reſolute intent, imagination, purpoſe, and obſtinate determination to haue killed her Maieſtie, our moſt gratious ſoueraigne: whome the Lorde hath ſaued, and euer may he ſaue by his mercy.

THis *W. Parry* the traytor, 1. cõfeſſeth to haue conceiued the treaſon at *Venice*, by conference with *Ben. Palmio*, of whom he ſtill thinketh ſo well, as he can not but ſpeake of him with reuerent mention, whereas, if he had neuer thought, or did nowe forethinke the Treaſon, hee would rather curſe the time that euer hee met with ſuch a bloody and treacherous ghoſtly father. Well, this graue and learned Frier *Palmio* (ſaith he) made the matter cleare in religion & conſcience, and commended the Traytours deuotion. This treaſon *Parry* ſo apprehended, as he wrote preſently to the Pope, preſenting the ſeruice. 2 Returned to Paris, hee conferred with *Morgan*, vowed to performe it for reſtitution of England, &c. 3 Being diſſwaded (as the credible man writeth) by Wats, he replied that he was gone ſo farre, as he could not go backe, but promiſed faithfully to perfourme thenterpriſe, if ỳ Pope would vpon his offers and letters allowe it, and graunt remiſſion, &c. Where this by the way is to be noted, that if the opinions of theſe Engliſh Prieſts (as he will needes make vs believe) were differing from the Pope, and our Engliſh Ieſuites, varying from Ieſuite *Palmio* and other beyonde ſea Ieſuites, in the queſtion of murdering a Prince: ſome of them at leaſt would haue giuen loyall intelligence

of such a treason conceiued & nourished in that man, who had made so many priuie both beyonde and on this side the sea, and could be dissuaded from his purpose, but euer departed with a resolution contrary to these colde dissuaders. It were no good pollicie to trust this popish Traytour, but rather to suspect all Pope-created Priestes to be of the same mind with their supreme head, and all English Iesuites to consent with forreyne Iesuites their fellowe members. They be all of one order and vowe, they haue one superiour, and if they had detested this fact in deede, some of them, seeing the wretch to perist, must needes haue bewayled it, & not to suffer him to go on headlong in such a sinne, leauing her royal person to the will and malice (as much as in them lay) of a murthering Ruffian. But to proue his intent with continuance & growing of the same, 4 againe he writeth letters to the Pope, in Ianu. 1584. by that account, tooke aduise vpon them in confession of *Mr. Calbero*, was cõmended, againe confessed, tooke the Sacrament (verely *cruentum sacramentum, & sacrificium cruoris*) at the Iesuites, at one altar, with the Cardinales of *Plandosmi* and of *Narbone*. Hereof he had certificate to the Pope, which he sent enclosed in his letters to his Holinesse, to leade him to absolue him, which he required in consideration of so great an enterprise vndertaken without reward. 5 The letter and certificat he read to *Ragazzoni*, and left with him to be sent to the Pope, who wished him good speede, promising he should be remembred at the altar. 6 He doubteth, least if Morgan died, and he miscaried in the execution (as he did, God be thanked, and choked in the halter, notwithstanding their remembrance at the altar) and his intent neuer truely discouered, that is to say, that he did it for the Catholikes, it might be a spot in his race. Marke here the very worde intent in his owne confession. 7 Morgan assureth him, that the lord *Fernehurst* should go into Scotlãd, & be ready to enter vpõ the first newes of our Queenes fall. Thus much for his intent

beyonde

beyonde Sea, and before his coniuration discouered.

Vpon his arriual in England, he wrote to Court, that he had a speciall seruice of discouerie to the Queene: but with what intent, let his owne words speake. 8 more to prepare accesse and credite, then for any care had of her person. Admitted to her gracious audience, he discouered the coniuration, yet in what maner: let him selfe say, euen couered with all the skill he had. This intent was with deepe Treason: for as he sayth, so he did, he disclosed onely so much as he thought good and necessary to grounde in her highnesse a settled confidence towards him, whereby he might effect his trayterous intent with better opportunitie, and his owne safetie. He bewrayed himselfe so farre as he might couer his chiefe drift, many principall things concealed, nothing of lord *Fernehurst* with his Scottish forces, &c. 9 Receiuing from the Pope himselfe commendation and allowance of his enterprise, of encouragement & plenarie indulgence by no meaner man then *Cardinal di Como*, though he shewed the letter to her Maiestie, not for any care of her person, but for his better accesse and credit, as the rest, yet let his owne wordes tell what his intent was at the very receiuing and shewing the same letter: Forsooth (saith he) this letter confirmed his resolution to kill the Queene, making it cleere in his conscience, as a thing lawfull and meritorious.

Now is his intent growen a resolution, not doubtful, but cleare in conscience, not alone lawfull, but meritorious, *Papa dixit*, a Cardinall is *Nuncio*: What other thing is this, then for ꝑ Pope & his Cardinals, like another *Antoninus Commodus*, to make one *Interficarios & gladiatores*? The deuill enforcing this traytours heart to execute his intent, 10 he was troubled looking vpon the Queene, and remembring her excellencies: yet he saw no remedie, his vowes were in heauen, his letters and promises on earth. Yea, he strouе to cloze his eyes at these excellencies, and obstinated his heart by seeking reasons to quenche all

sharkes of humanitie & allegiance arising in his thoughts. For thus reasoneth he against his cõscience, Why should thou care for her: what hath she done for thee: hast thou not spent tenne thousand markes, &c. What more deuilish intent coulde possesse a traytour, then to labour to suppresse a final remaine of conscience abhorring to kill so excellent a personage, which God stirred vp in his thoughtes to his iuster condẽnation? 11 *D. Allens* booke redoubled his former conceites, euery word was a warrant to a prepared mind. See how the smoothe words of that Catholique booke are enterpreted and conceiued. One spirite occupieth the Catholique reader with the Catholique writer, and therefore can best expound the writers sence in his readers mouth, euen to bee a booke fraught with emphaticall speaches of energeticall perswasion to kill and depose her Maiestie, and yet doeth the hypocrite writer, that traitour Catholique, dissemble and protest otherwise. 12 *Parry* suffering repulse in a suite for *S. Katherins*, communeth with *M. Newill*, recommendeth the enterprise as honourable and profitable to the Catholique common weale. Being preiudiced in opinion of *Allens* booke (as before) hee commendeth it, and deliuereth it to *Newill*, thereby to worke the same vile intent in him which it had alreadie confirmed in himselfe. He tooke nowe an other othe vpon the Bible, after the maner of a Protestant, to pursue the enterprise, and meant (he saith) to performe it, so farre forth as the place and maner of doing was appointed. This second coniuration he neuer bewrayed in sixe moneths, till accused by *Newill*, and then at first denied it. 13 Finally to declare his height of malice, hee saith, if the Queene had preferred him neuer so greatly, yet must this bloodie enterprise haue holden, except shee had relieued the Catholiques. Was this no intent, which neyther benefite nor bountie coulde stay: which neither feare of God, nor reuerence of excellencie coulde repell: which neither dread of punishment, nor tract of time could remoue: Did he conceiue it,

conferre

conferre and aduise of it, bowe himselfe to the execrable ser-
uice, present & offer it, harden his heart against others dis-
swasions, beate backe contrarie motions of his owne con-
science, goe so farre as hee coulde not goe backe, promise it
faithfully, receiue a Church Sacrament thereupon, make
certificat thereof, propound himselfe the ende and reason of
his intent, discourse vpon the contingent sequele, preuen-
ting the spot of his race, receiue letters of allowance, com-
mendation, encouragement, and absolution, could he bowe
in heauen, and promise on earth, coulde hee doe all this in a
thing which he meant not? Could he resolue and confirme
his resolution of a thing which he intended not, yea, coulde
hee intende and meane (for all these be his owne wordes)
that which he neuer meant nor intended? could he redouble
his conceits, and haue a prepared minde for that hee inten-
ded not? would such a craftie traitour practise with others
by perswasiue speach, and trapterous booke, in such a mat-
ter, as the onely broching thereof must capitally endamage
his kinseman and friende, and withall lay his owne head in
his friendes hand? and yet notwithstanding, either he ment
this treason, either els he litle loued his friend, to tempt him
so dangerously, whom yet, he saith, hee loued so, as to suffer
his finger in his dish, and his hand in his purse. But, which
is aboue all, would any man sweare againe on the Bible,
appoint time and place, conceale it with as much perill as
if hee had done it, would hee denie it, would so ambitious a
man discontent himselfe with all preferment, for that chie-
uing of that which hee meant not? was this mischieuous
course begunne and continued, a long time, at home and a-
broade, in many kingdomes, communicated with many
persons, of seuerall nation and qualitie, as Pope, Cardi-
nall, *Nuntio*, Frier, Priest, Kings Secretarie and Am-
bassadours, all this while not meant? Was it frankly
and voluntarily confessed meant, finally, recorded by
pleading guiltie in maner and fourme with all circum-
stance, and yet could hee bye an innocent for intent? All

this

this falling vpon no simple man, but vpon one, not nowe the first time holding vp his hande at barre, and vpon a Doctour of lawe, the very hoode whereof is able to giue a man more iudgement, then to slip without light in all these things. I knowe not howe he may be excused, without strong suspition of the excuser. And yf a Prince may not iudge a wicked seruant out of his owne mouth, nor determine an offence by two or three mouthes, it were a notable world for Traitors and murderers, thus to haue all proceedings set loose, as well of our common Lawes, which condemne vpon all euidences, as of ỳ ciuill lawes, which giue capitall sentence vpon confession onely: yea, Moses wisedome is ouerreached, and Christes equitie in his Euangelicall parable against the lewde seruant not vsing his talent is eluded. All this is also ratified by voluntarie letters of his to her Maiestie apart, & to her honorable Counsell. And if any Italianate Papist, neuertheless will needes beleeue this repugnancie of his last speaches, let him yet take this one note of him, whereby to consider howe credible a man he crediteth. Either *Parry* meant this monstrous murder according to his vowes in heauen, and sworne promises in earth, and so dyed a desperate Traitour, protesting the contrary in his last wordes vpon his soule and damnation: or els was he periured, to the foule abuse of Pope and all poperie, most execrably prophaning Gods name by promising, swearing, vowing, &c. that which he meant not. Necessarily therefore must he perish vpon periured treason, or wrecke vpon desperate deieratiõ. Nothing auoydes this *Dilemma*, but a Popish *Bull* of Dispensation, which if he had, I knowe not howe Princes may not as safely suffer Woolues and Beares come to their presence, as such Papists. And very like it is that *Parry* had a speciall *Bull*, either els was it comprehended in his Indulgence, that hee might take othes contrary to his Catholique conscience, as he did the othe of Supremacy in beginning of the last Parliament.

Which

Which, if his coniuratours had not bin priuy with what intention he did sweare, he neuer durst haue taken it, least they should haue nowe bewrayed him as a man sworne against the Pope, therefore not to be trusted. But the trueth is, this Papist *Parry* was both a Traytor, and a manifoldly periured Traitor, &c.

Imprinted at London
by C. B.

Cum priuilegio.

¶ A prayer for all Kings, Princes, Countreyes and people, which doe profesſe the Goſpel: And eſpecially for our ſoueraigne Lady Queene Elizabeth, vſed in her Maieſties Chappell, and meete to bee vſed of all perſons within her Maieſties Dominions.

O Lord God of hoſtes, moſt louing and mercifull father, whoſe power no creature is able to reſiſt, who of thy great goodneſſe haſt promiſed to graunt the petitions of ſuch as aſke in thy ſonnes name: we moſt humbly beſeech thee to ſaue and defend all Princes, Magiſtrates, kingdomes, countreyes & people, which haue receiued and doe profeſſe thy holy word and Goſpel, and namely this Realme of Englande, and thy ſeruant Elizabeth our Queene, whome thou haſt hitherto wonderfully preſerued from manifolde perils and ſundry dangers, and of late reuealed and fruſtrated the trayterous

practises and conspiracies of diuers against her: for the which, and all other thy great goodnesse towardes vs, wee giue thee most humble and heartie thankes, beseeching thee in the name of thy deare sonne Iesus Christ, and for his sake, still to preserue and continue her vnto vs, and to giue her long life & many yeeres to rule ouer this lande. O heauenly father, the practises of our enemies, and the enemies of thy worde and trueth, against her and vs, are manifest and knowen vnto thee. Turne them, O Lord, if it be thy blessed will, or ouerthrowe and confounde them for thy names sake: suffer them not to preuaile: take them, O Lord, in their craftie willinesse that they haue inuented, and let them fall into the pit which they haue digged for others. Permitte them not vngodly to triumph ouer vs: discomfort them, discomfort them, O Lorde, which trust in their owne multitude, and please themselues in their subtill deuices, and wicked conspiracies. O louing Father, wee haue not deserued the least of these thy mercies which we craue: for we haue sinned and grieuously offended thee, we are not worthy to bee called thy sonnes: we haue not bene so thankefull vnto thee as we shoulde, for thy vnspeakeable benefits powred vpon vs: we haue abused this long time of peace and prosperitie: we haue not obeyed thy worde: we haue had it in mouth, but not in heart: in

outward

outward appearance, but not in deede: wee haue lined carelesselye: Wee haue not knowen the time of our visitation: we haue deserued vtter destruction. But thou, O Lorde, art mercifull, and ready to forgiue. Therefore wee come to thy throne of grace, confessing and acknowledging thee to be our onely refuge in all times of perill and daunger: and by the meanes of thy Sonne Wee most heartily pray thee to forgiue vs our vnthankefulnesse, disobedience, hypocrisie & all other our sinnes, to turne from vs thy heauie wrath and displeasure, which wee haue iustly deserued, and to turne our hearts truely vnto thee, that dayly we may encrease in all goodnesse, and continually more and more feare thy holy name: so shall we glorifie thy name, and sing vnto thee in Psalmes and Hymnes, and spirituall songs: and thy enemies and ours, shall knowe themselues to be but men, and not able by any meanes to withstande thee, nor to hurt those whome thou hast receiued into thy protection and defence. Graunt these thinges, O Lorde of power, and Father of mercy, for thy Christes sake, to whome with thee and thy holy spirite, bee all honour and glory for euer and euer. Amen.

¶ A prayer and thankeſgiuing for the Queene, vſed of all the Knights and Burgeſſes in the High Court of Parliament, and very requiſite to bee vſed and continued of all her Maieſties louing ſubiectes.

Almightie and moſt mercifull God, which doſt pitch thy tents round about thy people, to deliuer them from the handes of their enemies, we thy humble ſeruants which haue euer of olde ſeene thy ſaluation, doe fall downe and proſtrate our ſelues with praiſe and thankeſgiuing to thy glorious name, who haſt in thy tender mercies from time to time ſaued and defended thy ſeruant Elizabeth our moſt gracious Queene, not only from the hands of ſtrange children, but alſo of late reuealed and made fruſtrate his bloody & moſt barbarous treaſon, who being her natural ſubiect, moſt vnnaturally violating thy diuine ordinance, hath ſecretly ſought to ſhed her blood, to the great diſquiet of thy Church, and vtter diſcomfort of our ſoules: his ſnare is hewen in pieces, but vpon thy ſeruant doeth the crowne floriſh. The wicked and bloodthirſtie men

men thinke to deuoure Jacob, and to lay waste his dwelling place: But thou, (O God) which rulest in Jacob, and vnto the endes of the worlde, doest dayly teach vs still to trust in thee for all thy great mercies, and not to forget thy mercifull kindnes shewed to her, that feareth thy name. O Lorde wee confesse to thy glory & praise, that thou only hast saued vs from destruction, because thou hast not giuen her ouer for a pray to the wicked: her soule is deliuered, & wee are escaped. Heare vs now we pray thee, (O most mercifull father) and continue forth thy louing kindnesse towards thy seruant, and euermore to thy glorie and our comfort, keepe her in health, with long life, and prosperitie, whose rest and only refuge is in thee, O God of her saluation. Preserue her, as thou art wont, preserue her from the snare of the enemie, from the gathering together of the froward, from the insurrection of wicked doers, and from all the traiterous conspiracies of those which priuily lay waite for her life. Grant this, O heauenly father, for Jesus Christs sake, our onely mediatour and aduocate, Amen.

Io. Th.

¶ A prayer

A Prayer vſed in the Parliament onely.

O Mercifull God and Father, forasmuch as no counſell can ſtande, nor any can proſper, but onely ſuch as are humbly gathered in thy name, to feele the ſweete taſte of thy holy ſpirite, we gladly acknowledge, that by thy fauour ſtandeth the peaceable protection of our Queene and Realme, and likewiſe this fauorable libertie graunted vnto vs at this time to make our meeting together: Which thy bountifull goodnes we moſt thankefully acknowledging, doe withall earneſtly pray thy diuine Maieſtie ſo to incline our hearts, as our couſels may be ſubiect in true obedience to thy holy worde and will. And ſithe it hath pleaſed thee to gouerne this Realme by ordinary aſſembling the three eſtates of the ſame: our humble prayer is, that thou wilt graffe in vs good mindes to conceiue, free libertie to ſpeake, and on all ſides a ready and quiet conſent to ſuch wholeſome lawes & Statutes, as may declare vs to be thy people, and this

Realme

Realme to be prosperously ruled by thy good guyding and defence: so that we & our posteritie may with chearefull hearts wayte for thy appearance in iudgement, that art onely able to present vs faultlesse before God our heauenly Father: to whome with thee our Sauiour Christ, and the holy Spirit, bee all glory both nowe and euer.

Amen.

Imprinted at London by C. B.

Cum priuilegio.